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~QUARTERLY~

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Missionary Plans for All the Church

BREWER EDDY

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, Boston Mass.

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Foreword.

Please be good to this leaflet. It goes forth from my desk with great expectations but a little wastebasket treatment would spoil it all.

Here are plans and suggestions for all the Missionary work of the church, but a leaflet's page is the worst place in the world for them. They are fairly homesick to get acquainted with your young people and your mid-week meetings. They hereby promise to be good if they get a fair chance and that means a boost from a wide-awake committee and a bit of gray matter from their friends.

The "feature" of these pages is the group of four new programs presenting "A Century of the American Board." The clock is striking and just three months remain for century talk. The conviction besets that it is a real opportunity for glancing at the hundred years for arguments to make optimists in the pews.

Let the Committee work them up in the Young People's Meeting first, since they already know how, then use the same speakers and charts in the mid-week service, both to let new blood into old veins and also to double the interest of those same young workers. Then on to the Sunday School, whittled down a bit for the occasion, as you find best.

This Education Department wants to be kept busy sending supplies and saying "Thank you" to letters that tell of gifts. We have the goods on the shelves and now await your orders to deliver them.

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Prof. Rowe's series will be concluded in the next number.

THE CENTENNIAL OF AMERICAN MISSIONS.

During the autumn months that word "centennial" will dominate our denomination. The great meetings in Boston will deeply impress our thought. Should there not be in every church some echo of these meetings? Four suggestive outlines for programs in the mid-week service are handed you in the hope that they will bring to your church an impression of God's goodness in sustaining and guiding the devoted efforts of our missionaries through all the one hundred years past.

These programs are not complete in detail. The purpose is to suggest the material needed by the speakers, leaving the opening and closing exercises to the ingenuity of each committee.

In carrying out one or more of these programs, if the "Centennial Leaflets" have not already been distributed in your church, let us send a supply, or if the occasion calls for an offering, let us send the Centennial Collection Envelopes, especially printed in deep red. In planning the programs, it is well to vary the opening exercises in each case.

THE BEST METHOD of introducing these programs is to present them as a continuous series for four evenings, as was urged with the programs on Turkey, last year.

"The Story of the American Board."

To celebrate the turning of the new page, the Board's history has been written by William E. Strong, the editorial secretary. For persons who sought a condensed and interesting account of the story of the Board, there has been nothing in existence except files of pamphlets from which the facts could be gleaned. Surely every pastor's library should have this volume, and every Young People's Society will turn to it again and again for its complete account of our missions. It will be a storehouse of material. These programs therefore are based entirely upon this history. It can be ordered from the Board headquarters for $1.75, postage 18 cents extra.

PROGRAM ONE.

CENTURY CONTRASTS.

I. Hymn of Worship, "Jesus, Saviour, pilot me."

II. Missionary Hymn, "The morning light is breaking."

III. Two Brief Prayers, the first for Home Missions, the second for native churches and leaders in all lands.

IV. Scripture Reading, Psalm 62 : 5 - 8. (Above the bodies of Gardiner and his six companions, who died in their attempt to reach the heathen of Tierra del Fuego, was found a hand painted on the rocks and pointing to this reference.)

V Introductory Statement by the Leader.

VI. Our New World.. (10 minutes.) If possible from some world history, show the vast changes which have taken place in the map of the world in the last century. (Write for pamphlet "Around the World One Hundred Years Ago.")

VII. The Founding of the American Board. (5 minutes.) (The History, pp. 3 - 6.)

VIII. Heroism against Obstacles. Discomfort, Opposition and Hardship. (17 - 19, 26.)

IX. Beginnings at Home. (7 minutes.) (Work among the Indians, 44 - 45, 51, 54, 61.)

X. Beginnings Abroad. (5 minutes.) (Work in India, 20 - 23.)

XI. The Early Days of Struggle. (7 minutes.) (140 - 143, 145 - 148, 153).

PROGRAM TWO.

PIONEERING FOR ONE HOUR.

Again the map must be used in order to locate the work of these four pioneers. These are chosen to represent different types of work in different parts of the world. They are not the best known among the great missionaries, but their story brings us heart to heart with the work for which our forefathers labored.

I. Opening Hymn. "I love to tell the story."

II. Missionary Hymn. "Ye Christian heralds, go proclaim." (Sing from memory, without books, reading verses aloud.)

III. Scripture Reading. Psalms 135 and 121. Read by Livingstone at family prayers, the day he left for Africa.

IV. The Miracle of the Sandwich Islands.
Titus Coan. (71 - 74.)

V. In the Heart of Mohammedanism.
William Goodell. (83 - 85, 90 - 93, 322.)

VI. With a Doctor in China.
Peter Parker. (109 - 113.)

VII. Father and Son in Africa.
Aldin and Lewis Grout, (132 - 139.)

For those who have not already studied his life, it would be well to include Neesima and the Doshisha, (271 - 275).

In presenting each life, the speaker should briefly outline the opening of the mission and bring the account to a close with facts from later days in that field, showing the results of the investment of the life described. Other lives can easily be substituted if friends are interested in a particular field or missionary.

PROGRAM THREE.

THE FAR FLUNG BATTLE LINE.

In this program, we must try to see the magnitude, diversity and sweep of our present work abroad. The following method is suggested. Prepare small cards (not torn pieces of paper) on which the nineteen numbers appearing below, have been printed.

Hand these out at the beginning of the meeting at random. As the facts are presented, the speaker pauses while the leader asks who has that figure on his card. All those holding cards must then guess whether their figure fits the statement. Make certain that all the cards have been distributed, then find the right one. (The figure sought is given below in parenthesis as a guide to the speaker and leader.)

I. THE FIRST SPEAKER prepares a brief talk about our missionaries abroad, their hardships and heroism, mentioning any particular persons known on the field, concluding the sentence with the remark that the total number of missionaries of the Board has just this last month passed the figure——?——(600). Who holds the secret number? These missionaries are but a part of a great army for the total number of missionaries in the entire world reaches——?——(16,000). The number seems vast until it is remembered that the Congregational share of the heathen world is ——?——(75,000,000) so that each of our missionaries has a parish of——?——(125,000) souls to reach.

II. THE SECOND SPEAKER continues: The American Board has always stood for one great principle,—the development of the native churches. In proportion to our work, we have by far the greatest number of native workers. In the year 1850, we had only——?——(130), but today the number reaches——?——(4,718). Let us give thanks that there are now——?—— church members (73,084) won, under God, through our own missionaries. (One of the most telling facts is that in the last ten years, our churches abroad have increased 41%, while in our churches in this country, the increase has been only 18%. Represent this on a scale chart to show that if missions are not a success abroad, certainly our own work at home is not a triumph when we remember that there are 6,000 Congregational ministers laboring in the home land with all the help of civilization, schools, laws, etc. as contrasted with the heathenism opposed to our missionaries).

III. THIRD SPEAKER: In this same way work in the following figures. Total number of native churches ——?——(568). Think of the transformed lives represented in one native church,—each member drawn from heathenism, perhaps immorality, suffering, ignorance. Each Sabbath as we worship, remember the ——?——(87,876) Sunday School children who have been gathered within reach of the love of Christ, the only stimulus toward uplift in the dead level of their experience. But not only on Sunday are we

at work. See that long line standing shoulder to shoulder,—20 miles in all without a break——?—— school children (70,451) receiving their chance at a new life. Add to this the wonderful story of——?—— (350,334) cases treated in our dispensaries last year. Think of what each one represents. Our——?——(60) medical missionaries are not competing with other doctors for practice. Each may be 100 miles from the other, meeting cases which no other trained physician would ever see.

IV. Fourth Speaker: Hold up a dollar. You have heard some one say it takes a dollar to send a dollar. Did you ever think that when that starts abroad it becomes——?——(10), because its purchasing power is multiplied that many fold. It can be estimated that for every dollar the American Board invests in medical missions, there is treated on the foreign field a total of——?——(21)cases? Less than 5 cents a case. Think of that for an investment. A missionary was sending some boys to school last year, and discovered that for the same amount that he was expecting to spend on his son for a year in Yale, he could give one year of college education to——?——(40) boys in India. Just think of the value of this $1 as represented by the fact that it will send a child to school for ——?—— days (30), or that you can support a man and his wife and family of children all in active Christian work for one month for just——?——($3) of these. Let us think of our dollars in the terms of their purchasing power. To close the meeting, reproduce the chart below on a blackboard and drive its message home.

"400 to 1"

CONGREGATIONAL GIFTS

Home Field

$4.00 for the uplift of each soul in our home parish

☐

Foreign Field

1 cent for the uplift of each soul in the foreign Parish

PROGRAM FOUR.

AN EVENING IN ———.

Almost every church centers its interest in some particular field, either because of gifts sent thither or from friends known abroad. Select your favorite mission. Write to the Board for its last report and for letters from missionaries there.

I. Opening Hymn, "Christ for the world, we sing."

II. Scripture Suggestions. Africa, Acts 8:26-39. China (Sinim), Isaiah 49:8-12. The Islands, Isaiah 41:1-5.

III. Where? Show a map of the field, locating the stations with seals. Describe the country and dwell on its particular problems and needs. For a novelty, prepare map of your field, mounted on cardboard and cut into 6 or 8 irregular portions. On back of each piece, write one interesting fact. Each person holding a piece, gives the news item and fits his part into the map on the table until the entire country is produced. Seats for this meeting should be arranged around the table.

IV. Who? Give the names of the workers, with some word about each one.

V. What? Tell the story of the founding of the work and of its present condition. Give instances of converts or of churches.

This part should be presented in costume if possible, relating in the first person the characteristics of the people or the life story of the individual. If you have not used it, "The Cry of the Moslem Women" can be sent you to be given in simple Turkish costume.

Perhaps a bit of special decoration can be attempted and curios might be borrowed. At least pictures could be shown, mounted on cards.

VI. Why? A true spiritual ring should conclude this program by touching on our personal responsibility, our loyalty to Christ and the devotion of our native churches.

At some point, unite in earnest and definite prayer for the workers and the work as it has been described.

As a result of the meeting, ask someone to write a cordial letter to the friends abroad, telling about the meeting and of the prayers offered for the distant friends.

PLANS FOR MISSIONARY EDUCATION IN THE CHURCH.

We first must think of the church as a unit before its parts are considered. There is a growing conviction there should be a MISSIONARY COMMITTEE in the church that will represent all the organizations. Pastors speak of the evil of centering all young life in the C. E. and all women's interest in their Associations. The plans for the church need the novelties and interest attractive to young people, the thoroughness of the work done by the women and the virility of the brotherhood. Each must meet the other helpfully in the church itself. If the Committee work with the pastor as the head, he can guide all lines of effort. It should be a force for unity. Plans successful once will work twice at another point if suggestions are exchanged. Have a member then from the school, from the C. E. and add several men from the brotherhood and women from their society. The committee should meet once a month to plan an active educational campaign.

THE SERMONS on missions must be left to the pastor, only suggesting the value of a series on themes that touch modern missionary problems, or on the great religions or founders, a glimpse at a number of new countries or missionary heroes. The text books published by the Young People's Missionary Movement are mines for such a series. Ellis' "Men and Missions" and the new "History of the American Board" added to the "Pastors' Series," sent out by the Home Department are available sources.

IN THE MID-WEEK MEETING there is the most open of doors for all we can do. The program *must* be set up, for general remarks will not flow on missionary topics. There is no use announcing a good topic, speaking half the time and "throwing open the meeting." It doesn't open. A definite program with the parts well prepared is the only solution, but when this is rightly planned, it makes a green oasis in a winter's work. Everybody likes novelty, loves to see young people step forward to tell a real story, and to learn new ideas of what is going

on around the world. Bring a program over bodily from the Study Class or C. E., with new faces and strange voices, use the maps, charts, open questions suggested and add the pastor's fifteen minute talk and the hour has sped. A list of such programs is given on page 15.

A DEFINITE OBJECT to work for is the best single incentive to missionary giving. It personalizes interest. Report letters with occasional snap shots for the bulletin board hold attention. For small amounts ($30 or less) a share in the Station Plan is the best investment. Let us send a leaflet, explaining the plan. For churches that give $100 or more, a station or group of schools with native workers can be assigned as your own field. Several churches are backing up great centers of work in this way and find the value of the living bond between their own congregation and "Our Parish Abroad." Choose your country and let us offer a station for your prayers and generosity.

No less important is the BUDGET PLAN urged by the Laymen's Movement. To the Apportionment for the Seven Societies, add the gifts to the Woman's Board and to local charities, pointing a campaign toward the adoption and raising of the total. Here is where we touch the laymen closely. They are seeing the justice of this business-like method and have proved in scores of churches that a men's supper, followed by earnest speeches with this as the goal and the Every-Member-Canvass as the method, gets results. If a sermon launches the campaign and a special committee (to serve for only two weeks) visit every member BY TWOS, the double object is gained of arousing the committee and of bringing each member to face conscientiously his responsibility to the benevolences.

Special occasions can be used to add fuel when the fire burns low. Stereopticon lectures are becoming frequent and the forty sets of slides in the offices are usually busy. Missionary Socials twice a year are fallow fields for new ideas in decoration, costumes and dramatic pictures from foreign lands.

IN THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

The tide is coming in. We no longer have to debate the wisdom of adding missionary illustrations from the modern acts of the apostles to the teaching of the lesson. All the important courses now include missionary material. The International Lesson Committee in their new outlines for the graded courses have worked in a surprising amount of it. It is seldom labeled but beneath the surface true world-horizon inspiration is there. One entire year is spent on the growth of the Kingdom throughout the world and illustrations from the great biographies are sprinkled on the page. The juniors especially are being taught the object lessons, pictures and stories so that little folks across the seas will be near neighbors to the coming generation. The Blakeslee courses include a year's work on "The Conquering Christ," reviewing the great religions and the accounts of success in all lands. Books of child stories are at hand for primary teachers. At a recent conference in New York, a list of fifty things was tabulated which the adult class could use as missionary educators.

A MONTHLY PROGRAM twenty minutes long will not ruin the continuity of the lessons, but adds variety to the winter's work. Some earnest leader should work up these exercises, with the help of several scholars. After these four Centennial programs are finished, follow on with others. One girl in New Jersey changed the whole outlook of her church through a series of such quarter-hours and the children looked upon them as raisins in the cake.

For class study, the TEXT BOOK METHOD is best. Trull's little reviews of the lives of Carey, Judson, Livingstone, &c., or his studies of many countries offer the teacher her chance. For intermediate classes, Miss Hubbard's "Under Marching Orders," and Mrs. Fahs' "Uganda's White Man of Work," (the story of Mackay's thrilling life in Africa) are especially designed. "Servants of the King," by Mr. Speer, or Beach's "Princely Men in the Heavenly Kingdom," are good groups of biographies. All these are to

be taught five minutes at a time in the class hour, or continuously for a month, for a change.

If these look too big, give the class the kernel of any of our score of pamphlet stories ready for the asking.

Don't miss the benefit and added color of hanging up one of the set of SIX MOTTOES, mounted on cardboard. Any class that takes part in a program should have one of the mottoes hung on their wall as a reward. Have you used the FLAG SALUTE? Some schools use it on all important occasions. You have seen the idea. The Americal flag and the special missionary flag are saluted by a pledge of allegiance and are waved together, while the school sings "Fling Out the Banner."

A new plan for making THE MISSIONARY OFFERING a matter of fun and interest is presented this year. The gist of it runs thus: After the program, let the classes meet to discuss HOW MUCH EACH CLASS WILL PLAN TO RAISE. That makes it all their own. The nickel or penny brought from home may go here or go there for all the children care, but if they are allowed to set the mark themselves, it takes on personal issues. One boy in such a scheme broke open his bank and brought in $1.37 tied up in his handkerchief. A series of Sundays should be set aside for this offering or else the plan falls short. The amount to be raised is estimated at so much per Sunday and the pot keeps boiling as the treasurer of each class steps forward to report the amount raised that day. Each class can have some design hung at the front, on which a colored crayon pictures the progress. A foot-ball gridiron, a base-ball diamond, a clock dial, thermometer, a man climbing a ladder or a map with links stretching to your mission parish can all be drawn easily. Then add the last touch by pitting the boys against the girls or one side of the room against the other, to see which will raise their "apportionment" first. Such a plan would surely raise up a generation of Congregational deacons who would need no instruction in our national issues. Of course, we send special collection envelopes.

To stimulate interest, the newly struck CENTENNIAL MEDAL will be sent to every boy and girl who gives fifty cents or more in any special offering. The medal is an oxidized metal, that cannot be told from silver and bears an artistic design. A red, white and blue ribbon ties it in the button hole. The Sunday School offerings this year are building the new church in the Philippines, and a definite part of the building can be assigned to each class. Will you give the bell or a pew or a sheet of iron for the roof, or a hardwood pillar?

FOR THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETY.

Here the problem is simpler for the machinery is running and the committee are looking eagerly for hints. Let's put the full pressure of first emphasis upon the STUDY CLASS. No device for ingrafting information can touch it. Our Young People are far, far behind those in other denominations in this line of work. It looks appalling—that extra meeting each week in busy lives, but there are always a crew to be found if the ship is launched and when an earnest committee set out to make that class succeed, both leader and class will appear. Here are pamphlets to tell you just how to organize and how to lead the work. Each course has a set of instructions to teach it so you need not say it is too difficult. This year the new book ought to be the best yet for Mr. Mott knows his subject as no other man does. It is called "The Decisive Hour in Christian Missions." One new feature is added for the first time. Four programs are to be ready on the book so that the class work will harvest its results each month in the meetings. After studying two of the lessons, the first program can be given to the larger audience and the leaders and speakers for the programs must naturally join the class for those sessions at least. This is the best plan yet invented for furnishing a necessary reason for joining the class and for training those who are to take part in the programs.

Those PROGRAMS for your missionary meetings ought to be gilt-edged this year. There are the Centennial Four printed in this pamphlet, the four on Mott's book in addition to those listed on page 15. Now which will the committee choose? Do try hard for the one big point of having the usual topics set aside for a whole month while this cumulative, unified scheme is tried. Your meetings would be brightened by the spice of them and the results are ten fold. Dozens of groups trying this plan, last year, found it a real success.

Use your ACCESSORIES as never before. Those six mottoes touch up a dingy room and teach big lessons at the same instant. The charts are never forgotten. "What goes in one ear, goes out at the other," was never spoken of your eyes.

The tangible results of all this work will show in the increasing OFFERING. I am sometimes ashamed to look the treasurer's report in the eye. The Young People's column lacks determination and grit and brains somewhere, for it grows as slowly as a glacier moves. Do you wonder that we worry about it when over half the societies send nothing a year. We can help you make the offering interesting if you will use the Station Plan methods. It gives you a work of your own with report letters and close touch. The subscription cards and the Every-Member-Canvass will close the leaks, and your own prayers and pains will reach any goal you decide to set. The real enemy of progress in this line is the host of societies which still take up "collections" and wonder why the results seem meager. The subscription method is business-like and modern and gleans the field. Plan your best possible meeting, write to us and get your share in your chosen Station, then tell its story from the material we will send you, pass the cards and put in the net. This is the method used by over one hundred strong and faithful standard-bearing societies who are making up the bulk of the young people's receipts.

AVAILABLE PROGRAMS.

"A Century of the American Board." Series of four. See pages 4 - 8.

"The Decisive Hour." Series of four just issued for Mott's new book.

"Daybreak in Turkey." Four meetings based on Dr. Barton's book of that title. Planned to culminate a Reading Circle's work. "Coupon slips" to insure attendance, large posters to advertise them and several "features" to enliven their progress.

"Four Dramatic Programs." By Dr. Sailer, based on "The Why and How of Missions."

"Medical Missions." A concert exercise with assigned parts.

"Cyrus Hamlin." An outline sketch, based on "My Life and Times" or easily worked up from a pamphlet to be sent.

"David Livingstone." Based on his life, by Blaikie, using four speakers and a map.

"The Call of Young Japan." A concert exercise for the Sunday School.

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"A Century of Success." An illustrated concert exercise just printed. It presents the work in the Philippines, "our baby mission," and suggests an interesting contest for all scholars. Please see that your school uses it.

SUGGESTIONS.

Wall Mottoes. Set of six in three colors, 13 x 20 in. (50 cents.)

Stereographs for class use.

TEXT BOOKS.

All the books and courses published by the Young People's Missionary Movement. In cloth, 50c; in paper, 35c; postage, 8c.

"The Moslem World."
"The Uplift of China."
"The Why and How of Missions."
"Princely Men in the Heavenly Kingdom."

Send for illustrated pamphlet, describing all these courses, helps and libraries, free.

★

FORTY SETS OF STEREOPTICON SLIDES on all countries and kinds of work, sent from district offices on payment of expressage. Write for catalogue and general literature, to

JOHN G. HOSMER,
Publishing and Purchasing Agt.,
14 Beacon St., Boston, Mass.

"THE STORY OF THE AMERICAN BOARD,"

By William E. Strong,

The new history of the Board, completing the full century, just printed, should go into every pastor's library and every Young People's Society. Over five hundred pages, with sixteen new maps, forty portraits, etc. $1.75 net, postage, 18 cents.

"STATION PLAN."

Everyone likes to give to a definite object from which he can receive reports and to which the living bond binds him closely. Under the "Station Plan," you support a share in a particular station, you receive a wall certificate as a shareholder, report letters from the missionaries three or four times a year, and thus you are supporting "your own work abroad." Ten stations are ready for your consideration. This plan avoids the danger of sending "special" gifts tied up to some particular work, for in such cases, the gifts are not contributions to the American Board treasury and do not help us meet the "appropriations." Send for special leaflets on the "Station Plan" and "Special Gifts."

Send your offering to your district office:

Rev. Willard L. Beard, 287 4th Ave., New York City.
A. N. Hitchcock, D. D., 153 La Salle St., Chicago, Ill.
H. Melville Tenney, D. D., Mechanics Bank Bldg., San Francisco, Cal.
or, Frank H. Wiggin, Treas., 14 Beacon St., Boston.

Write to

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